

10/574013
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Docket No.: 2593-0163PUS1
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Hirofumi MASUDA et al.

Application No.: NEW

Confirmation No.: N/A

Filed: March 29, 2006

Art Unit: N/A

For: THERMOPLASTIC ELASTOMER
COMPOSITION AND SHAPED PRODUCT

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

MS PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. This Information Disclosure Statement accompanies the new patent application submitted herewith.

A summary/abstract translation of some of the non-English language references is enclosed. Furthermore, please note that U.S. Patent 5,728,772 and EP 0 755 974 both correspond to JP-A-9-95578; U.S. Patent 5,300,573 and EP 0 337 976 both correspond to JP-A-1-306456; U.S. Patent 5,591,798 and EP 0 337 977 both correspond to JP-A-1-306447; and U.S. Patent 6,207,752 and EP 1 101 797 both correspond to JP-A-2001-525475.

Applicant has not submitted copies of each cited U.S. patent and U.S. patent application as required by 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i), amended October 2004, as the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has waived this requirement for all U.S. patent applications. Applicant submits herewith copies of foreign and non-patents in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2). A concise explanation of relevance of the items listed on form PTO/SB/08 is in the form of an English language copy of a Search Report from a foreign patent office, issued in a counterpart application, which refers to the relevant portions of the references.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references. If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: March 29, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	NEW 10/574013
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				First Named Inventor	Hirofumi MASUDA
				Art Unit	N/A
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	2593-0163PUS1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
AA*	US-6,207,752-B1	03-27-2001	ABRAHAM et al.		
AB*	US-5,591,798-A	01-07-1997	PATEL		
AC*	US-5,300,573-A	04-05-1994	PATEL		
AD*	US-5,728,772-A	03-17-1998	HORI et al.		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
BA	JP-2001-49037-A		02-20-2001		ABS
BB	JP-2002-348413-A		12-04-2002		ABS
BC	JP-2001-233996-A		08-28-2001		ABS
BD	JP-7-53831-A		02-28-1995		ABS
BE	JP-9-95578-A		04-08-1997		ABS
BF	EP-0 755 974-A2		01-29-1997		
BG	JP-1-306456-A		12-11-1989		ABS
BH	EP-0 337 976-A2		10-18-1989		
BI	JP-1-306447-A		12-11-1989		ABS
BJ	EP-0 337 977-A2		10-18-1989		
BK	JP-2001-525475-A		12-11-2001		
BL	WO-99/29773-A1		06-17-1999		
BM	EP-1 101 797-A1		05-23-2001		
BN	JP-2003-55472-A		02-26-2003		ABS

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. * CITE NO.: Those application(s) which are marked with a single asterisk (*) next to the Cite No. are not supplied (under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(iii)) because that application was filed after June 30, 2003 or is available in the IFW. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			T ²

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¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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